



Student/Resident Experiences And Rotations in Community Health (SEARCH) Program Summary

SEARCH Program	Vermont SEARCH Program
Organization Type	University of Vermont
Project Contact	Charles D. MacLean, MD
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Website	www.Med.uvm.edu/opc
Project Service Focus	<i>rural</i>
Length of Rotation	~ one month
Disciplines eligible for rotation	Primary Care: Family Medicine (medical and NP students) Dental (residents)
Project Infrastructure Focus	Training
Stipend/Living Cost	Yes, amount varies based on length of rotation or community-based experience/project.
General Description of Your Program	<p>The University of Vermont College of Medicine Office of Primary Care (UVM-OPC) has a proven track record of providing opportunities for health professions students to learn and serve in communities throughout our state. In Vermont today there is strong commitment from a wide array of collaborators to improve the health of Vermonters by providing access to outstanding and accessible primary care. These collaborators include Vermont Area Health Education Centers (AHEC), the Vermont State Office of Rural Health and Primary Care, Bi-State Primary Care Association, the Vermont Blueprint for Health (a unique statewide public-private partnership for healthcare transformation), the state legislature, and others. Vermont is a relatively healthy state, with a low rate of uninsured. Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Centers, and Critical Access Hospitals are providing care to an increasing proportion of the population, but most primary care is still delivered in small rural practices.</p> <p>Recruiting and retaining the primary care workforce is essential to maintain the health of Vermont's population. The</p>

	<p>goal of this proposal is to establish the <i>Vermont SEARCH Program</i> as a collaboration between the UVM College of Medicine; the UVM College of Nursing and Health Sciences; residency programs at the UVM-affiliated academic medical center; the Vermont AHEC Centers; and primary care practices throughout the state. This will be facilitated in cooperation with the Vermont State Offices of Primary Care and Rural Health, the Bi-State Primary Care Association, rural primary care practices, regional hospitals, federal partners (e.g., the Health Resources and Services Administrators (HRSA), and National Health Service Corps (NHSC)), and other collaborators.</p> <p>We will expand opportunities for health professions students to experience outstanding team-based primary care, particularly in underserved communities. Our state currently enjoys excellent collaboration between these proposed SEARCH program stakeholders, but there remains an opportunity to facilitate and strengthen these community-academic linkages and thereby increase the healthcare workforce pipeline.</p>
Activities undertaken by Students/Residents in Program	Community-based primary care experiences throughout Vermont.
List of Sites Students can/will be rotating through	FQHCs, RHCs, and AHECs throughout Vermont